

As colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, Sonny and I traveled the world together, meeting with leaders from Singapore to Argentina to Israel and many nations in between. His gregarious nature was as prevalent during those international meetings as it was at home in the heart of Alabama. Sonny extended genuine kindness and friendship to folks across all walks of life and never lost the staunch work ethic that helped him build a successful trucking business in Alabama. Before being elected to Congress as a registered Republican, Sonny dedicated 12 years to the Alabama state legislature, serving both chambers as a registered Democrat—proving he could get along with leaders of all political persuasions.

I always had great admiration for the fact that Sonny was a Navy Veteran of the Korean War. There was no one he fought harder for in Washington than our veterans and current members of the U.S. Armed Forces. He believed in building a stronger national defense, advocating for better care for our veterans, and reinforcing foreign aid for key allies in the Middle East, especially Israel.

It is one of the greatest honors of my lifetime to have served alongside my friend Sonny for 18 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. As President Abraham Lincoln once wrote, “the better part of one’s life consists of his friendships.” Sonny Callahan is one of the most beloved leaders of Alabama and Washington, D.C., and I will always consider him one of my closest friends. My wife Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathy to the Callahan family and the great wealth of friends he made across the country, and indeed around the globe.

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the INVEST Act.

This bill represents a substantial investment in American infrastructure that will touch every corner of this country.

It will rebuild crumbling highways and bridges, reduce traffic congestion, enhance auto and pedestrian safety, expand transit options, help local governments finance their infrastructure and capital needs, and commit our nation to clean energy future.

I want to thank Chairman DEFAZIO and Chairwoman NORTON for working with me to include in this bill the Metro Accountability and Investment Act (H.R. 694), which helps the federal government meet its financial obligations to the national capital’s transit system.

The bill increases the existing federal commitment to Metro, provides annual operating funds for the first time, and conditions new funding on important accountability and ethics reforms that will strengthen the role and independence of the WMATA Inspector General.

I also welcome the reinstatement of the Build American Bonds program, a direct subsidy bond program that helps municipalities

access financing for infrastructure project and which I have previously championed with my own legislation.

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the senior Texas Member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I strongly support House passage of H.R. 3684, the INVEST in America Act. I inserted numerous provisions into the bill, including one to establish a grants program in the Department of Transportation to develop transportation workforce training programs for workers adversely affected by industry automation, and another to assist communities to retrofit transportation infrastructure that creates obstacles to their mobility and employment opportunities to provide greater transportation equity.

The INVEST in America Act authorizes a tremendous funding boost to our nation’s surface transportation and infrastructure system, providing just under \$550 billion over five years and bringing over \$27 billion to my state of Texas. In addition to highways, roads and bridges, the bill makes a substantive investment in our nation’s transit system as well as our passenger and freight rail system, and makes great strides to improve environmentally friendly policies by encouraging and funding alternative modes of transportation and decreasing traffic congestion to reduce carbon emissions and the harmful effects of climate change. Moreover, according to the Council of Economic Advisors, for every \$1 billion in Federal highway and transit investment, approximately 13,000 well-paying domestic jobs are supported for one year.

With respect to funding for passenger and freight rail, the bill provides a total of \$95 billion in authorized funding, while specifically:

Tripling funding for Amtrak to \$32 billion.

Providing funding for corridor planning and development of high-speed rail projects such as the Texas Central project, a proposed high-speed rail line between Dallas and Houston.

Improving rail safety by addressing highway-rail grade crossings needs, requiring additional rail safety inspectors, addressing trespasser and suicide fatalities, and eliminating gaps in railroad safety.

My congressional district, Texas’ 30th, includes the International Inland Port of Dallas (IIPOD), an intermodal and logistics district that encompasses 7,500 acres and five municipalities while supporting over 17,000 jobs. The Dallas Inland Port is also supported by Union Pacific, who added an intermodal terminal nearly 20 years ago to increase Class I’s Dallas/Ft. Worth container capacity. The Union Pacific Dallas Intermodal Terminal also provides intermodal access to the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The freight railroads invest \$25 billion per year of their own private money into their networks and are critical partners in efforts to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas

emissions. Given the importance of freight rail, not only to the Inland Port of Dallas but to ports nationwide, I encourage the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to continue to work with the freight railroad industry as the INVEST Act advances towards a House-Senate conference committee.

RECOGNIZING THADDEUS C. SHEEHY, SR. FOR HIS RETIREMENT FROM 25 YEARS OF COACHING MARYLAND’S YOUTH THROUGH CLUB LACROSSE

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mr. BROWN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thaddeus C. Sheehy, Sr., upon his retirement from 25 years of coaching Maryland’s youth through club lacrosse.

Coach Sheehy served the community as a dedicated volunteer, coaching Maryland’s sons by not only teaching them the game of lacrosse but also instilling in them life lessons along the way. This commitment to help build character in his players and ensure their growth as leaders also extended to his own family, as Mr. Sheehy coached his three sons, Thaddeus, Jr., Sean, and Liam.

Coach Sheehy, a 1988 graduate of Saint Mary’s Parish High School located in downtown Annapolis, learned the importance of servant leadership through Saint Mary’s varsity lacrosse program. Coach Sheehy took this servant leadership philosophy into the Annapolis Lacrosse Club Bay Raiders, with the mission to help young men get better at the sport they love while giving back to their community and those who protect it.

Francis McAndrews, who coached with Mr. Sheehy for 18 years including his last season as the Face-Off Coach of the Bay Raiders, commended his dedication and skills noting, “Coach Sheehy placed the development of the entire player at the forefront of the team’s priorities. For 18 years I worked alongside him to build leadership through the C-4: character, commitment, confidence, and courage in our young men, and I am proud to call Tad my friend. Tad had a successful style of building character through humor and was known to give each boy on the team a nickname—and very often those nicknames stuck well after their lacrosse careers!” Coach Sheehy could often be heard asking his players—“what have you done for your academics, what have you done for your family, and what have you done for lacrosse today?”

Sheehy coached the Annapolis Lacrosse Club Bay Raiders to be Maryland State Champions in 2015 and helped to take four teams to Anne Arundel County Champions in 2014, 2015 and 2016. He was honored with the Lifetime Achievement in Coaching Award by the Annapolis Lacrosse Club Bay Raiders, while at his last lacrosse tournament on June 20, 2021.

I am honored to recognize Coach Sheehy today for his 25-year commitment to help shape Maryland’s young men and athletes into servant leaders, and for his leading by example through his service to the Annapolis community.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE OF BISHOP MICHAEL SHERIDAN

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the leadership and service of Bishop Michael Sheridan in the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

When Bishop Sheridan arrived in Colorado Springs from Saint Louis in 2002, the diocese was still considered mission territory. Over the past two decades, Bishop Sheridan has worked tirelessly to ensure that, no matter where they live in the diocese, Catholics are served by a parish and a pastor. Under his leadership, several new parishes were established, and where existing churches were inadequate to serve the growing Catholic population, new ones were built.

More importantly, Bishop Sheridan has overseen a robust vocations program that has attracted many seminarians, resulting in the ordination of new priests nearly every year since 2010.

Bishop Sheridan is also known as an incredibly effective communicator and teacher of the Catholic faith. For over 10 years, he hosted a weekly radio show in which he interviewed a wide variety of Church leaders, theologians, authors, and other experts. This outreach provided an invaluable opportunity for Catholics in Colorado to gain deeper knowledge of the issues facing the church locally and around the world.

Bishop Sheridan is passionate about Catholic education, and he did everything in his power to support and strengthen Catholic schools in the diocese. Notably, he made sure that tuition assistance was available for families who had limited financial resources but wanted a Catholic education for their children. He also worked with local leaders of all faiths to support school choice so that all parents could have access to the best educational options for their children.

Bishop Sheridan has been a strong advocate for the poor and marginalized, and he has never flinched in the face of pressure to abandon or hide our brothers and sisters in need. In one of his most important accomplishments, Bishop Sheridan played an enormous role in the construction of Marian House soup kitchen in 2008, and the adjacent Hanifen Center in 2009. Those two facilities have served hundreds of thousands of people since their opening with meals, emergency aid, employment assistance, and many other services.

Under Bishop Sheridan's leadership, the diocese has also expanded its Respect Life Apostolate, which works to protect life from conception to natural death. This includes supporting mothers in crisis pregnancies with baby items and adoption services, advocating for pro-life legislation on the local and national levels, and working to expand outreach to those who are imprisoned or homebound.

Leaders are also judged by how they manage during difficult times. During his tenure, Bishop Sheridan led the faithful of a church that has been shaken by revelations of past mistakes. He has led during a time when the church is criticized both for defending itself

and for advocating for its beliefs. He also helped navigate the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Bishop Sheridan embarks on a well-earned retirement, it is my highest privilege to honor and thank him for being a faithful servant to Colorado's Fifth Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, due to a matter outside of my control, I was unable to participate in Roll Call numbers 193, 194, 195, and 196.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 193; YEA on Roll Call No. 194; NAY on Roll Call No. 195; and YEA on Roll Call No. 196.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ROBERT "BUZZ" BUSWELL AS TENNESSEE'S SECOND DISTRICT VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Purple Heart recipient and Vietnam War veteran Captain Robert "Buzz" Buswell as Tennessee's Second District Veteran of the Month.

Captain Buswell enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968 as a first lieutenant. In 1970, his platoon was attacked in Cambodia by enemy forces and he sustained extensive injuries. He was hospitalized for 19 months and received 27 surgeries. He fought for his recovery and even had to relearn how to walk. He retired from the military as a captain in 1972.

Buswell, whose father was a career officer in the U.S. Air Force, met his wife Donna in their high school glee club in New Hampshire. They have a son and a daughter.

Captain Buswell received numerous medals and commendations for his service, including the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. Just this year, Buswell was chosen as one of the nation's 2021 Purple Heart Patriot Project honorees.

After his military service, he earned his Master's Degree in education and spent many years serving East Tennessee communities. He worked for the Boys & Girls Club, the Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau, and served as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Hurricane Katrina ombudsman for Knoxville and Knox County. In 2012, when I was mayor, I had the honor of working alongside Buswell when he took the position of Knox County's veteran service officer. He continues that work today as the county's Director of Veteran and Senior Services.

If there's a veteran issue, program or event taking place in East Tennessee, it's almost certain that Buswell is involved. He is an active member in numerous veteran organiza-

tions. These include being a Life Member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. He helped charter the Vietnam Veterans of America Captain Bill Robinson Chapter 1078. His service to fellow veterans also includes involvement with the Veterans Regional Mental Health Council, Honor Air Knoxville, and Wreaths Across America. Through the United Veterans Council of East Tennessee he established a program serving hundreds of veterans free breakfast on Saturdays.

Captain Buzz Buswell is a true American hero. He sacrificed to protect our country and fight for our freedoms. And he's spent countless hours taking care of fellow veterans, making sure they have the support they need and the recognition they deserve.

I thank him for his service. It's an honor to call him my friend.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE GROSSMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the centennial of the Grossmont Union High School District, a family of 17 high schools and programs serving more than 20,000 of my constituents in California's 50th Congressional District.

In 1832, Abraham Lincoln said of education: "I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people can be engaged in."

Four score and nine years later, a school district was established in El Cajon, California, with construction on its first school beginning in 1921. This same building is now the Grossmont Union High School District's central office, which serves as an enduring symbol of East San Diego County's commitment to the centrality of education and advancement of every student.

The Grossmont Union High School District takes special and deserved pride in its rich history—now made modern with safe and cutting-edge campuses that support world-class academics. These schools meet the most fundamental mission: Empowering students to take their place as the leaders of tomorrow.

I congratulate Trustees Rob Shield, Elva Salinas, Gary Woods, Jim Kelly, and Christopher Fite, as well as Superintendent Theresa Kemper and the thousands of dedicated educators and workforce that have engaged this most important subject for the past 100 years.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. DALE EDWARD WHITEHEAD

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Dale Edward Whitehead,